

Minneapolis Community Development Agency

## Request for City Council Action

Date: April 8, 2002

To: Council Member Lisa Goodman, Community Development Committee  
Council Member Barbara Johnson, Ways and Means/Budget Committee

Prepared by Bill Tetzlaff, Manager, Business Development Dept. Phone 612-673-5168

Approved by Charles T. Lutz, MCDA Interim Executive Director \_\_\_\_\_

**Subject: Approval of appropriation of \$31,000 from available balance in Fund SDA, Development Account, to continue annual funding agreement with St. Anthony Falls Heritage Board**

**Previous Directives:** The MCDA Board of Commissioners approved the annual funding commitment with the St. Anthony Falls Heritage Board on June 28, 1996; similar agreements were approved in years 1990 through 1995.

**Wards:** 2, 3 and 5.

**Neighborhood Group Notification:** Not applicable.

**Consistency with *Building a City That Works*:** Complies with several objectives under Goal 4 – Preserve and enhance the historic structures, urban institutions, environments and amenities that define Minneapolis.

**Comprehensive Plan Compliance:** Not applicable.

**Zoning Code Compliance:** Not applicable.

**Impact on MCDA Budget:** (Check those that apply)

- ☐ No financial impact
- ☒ Action requires an appropriation increase to the MCDA Budget
- ☐ Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- ☐ Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- ☐ Other financial impact (Explain):

**Living Wage / Business Subsidy:** Not applicable.

**Job Linkage:** Not applicable.

Crown Roller Mill,  
105 Fifth Ave. S., Suite 200  
Minneapolis, MN 55401-2534  
Telephone: (612) 673-5095  
TTY: (612) 673-5154  
Fax: (612) 673-5100  
www.mcda.org

**Affirmative Action Compliance:** Not applicable.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Interim Executive Director recommends that the City Council amend the MCDA 2002 Appropriation Resolution to increase the appropriation in Fund SDA (Development Account) by \$31,000 from the available balance in Fund SDA.

### **Background/Supporting Information**

Since 1990 the MCDA's annual budget has included an allocation of \$31,000 to be provided as matching funds to the St. Anthony Falls Heritage Board. City Council action in 1996 authorized this allocation on a continuing basis as described below. Due to over-zealous budget-cutting efforts (by the author of this report) during preparation of the 2002 budget, this allocation was inadvertently removed from the final MCDA budget submitted to the City Council.

The St. Anthony Falls Heritage Board was created by the state legislature in 1988 to develop a comprehensive plan for interpreting the unique history of the St. Anthony Falls Heritage Zone and to encourage and coordinate implementation of that plan. The Board currently contains representatives of the City of Minneapolis, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, Minnesota Historical Society, Hennepin County, Minnesota legislature, Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission, State Historic Preservation Office, Hennepin History Museum, Minnesota State Review Board and citizen members. Staff work for the Heritage Board has been provided by the Minnesota Historical Society and the inter-agency Riverfront Technical Advisory Committee. The Heritage Board has been funded since its inception by equal contributions from the MCDA (on behalf of the City), the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, and the Minnesota Historical Society. Hennepin County joined the Board as a funding partner in 1993.

Among the projects in which the Heritage Board has played a pivotal role are the 1990 overall interpretive plan for the St. Anthony Falls Heritage Zone, rehabilitation of the Stone Arch Bridge for public recreational use, the creation of the St. Anthony Falls Heritage Trail through the installation of signage, the initial phases of Mill Ruins Park, the stabilization of the Washburn/Crosby "A" Mill, the Mill City Museum (now under construction) and numerous other planning, research, design and interpretive projects.

In 1996, the MCDA Board of Commissioners authorized the Executive Director to enter into an annual \$31,000 funding agreement with the St. Anthony Falls Heritage Board and the Minnesota Historical Society (as disbursing agent for the Heritage Board) in 1996 and subsequent years. Execution of this annual agreement is conditioned upon: 1) the City continuing to be represented on the St. Anthony Falls Heritage Board; 2) the City Council approving the requisite amount of funds for the Heritage Board in its annual

budget appropriation and 3) at least two other funding partners continuing to participate at the same amount contributed by the MCDA.

Board activities being undertaken in 2002 include the first phase of an update to the overall interpretive plan prepared in 1990, preparation of a signage/wayfinding plan, design/planning work related to future phases of Mill Ruins Park and the "Mill Stone Plaza" and research and development of two interpretive programs to be operated by the Park Board. In addition, the Board has approved grants totaling \$29,000 to the MCDA to fund design work for the Chicago plaza and preparation of an interpretive plan for the Chicago plaza.

As the Board has demonstrated success in achieving objectives and undertaking activities that benefit the MCDA, other Heritage Board members and the general public, staff believes this funding appropriation should be re-instated to allow this mutually supportive relationship to continue.